

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Allen	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	19.9%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	23.0%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	7.3%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,634	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	92.5%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	3.7%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	8.8	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	87.1%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	85.5%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	10.7%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	19.6%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	NA	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	184.7	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	78.6	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	8.1*	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	232.6	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	181.4	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	82.8	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	**	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	28.9	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	2.3	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 5	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	26.4%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI >30 (adults 20+)	25.7%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	70.8%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	86.2%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	72.5%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EM S/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

On June 12, 1912, Allen Parish was formed from the parish of Calcasieu. Named after Henry Watkins Allen, famous Confederate governor of Louisiana during the Civil War, it and Jefferson Davis Parish are the newest parishes in the state. At one time it was important as a great lumber producing region. Timber is still the major resource.

Allen Parish, Gateway to Southwest Louisiana, is traversed by the spring-fed waters of the Calcasieu and Whiskey Chitto rivers, which offer some of the best canoeing in the state. For the hunter or bird watcher, West Bay Wildlife Management Area is open year round, and visitors can enjoy overnight camping at Little Piney Park located near the historic sawmill town of Elizabeth.



Like Louisiana seasonings, Allen's potpourri of cultures is celebrated at Oberlin's Cajun Rendezvous, the Kinderfest, Oakdale's Springfest and Great Louisiana Cook-off, Elizabeth's Country Christmas, and the Coushatta Indian Reservation. Allen's Pioneer Flavor can be savored at Grant's Syrup-Making Mill and Christmas Tree Farm, West Bay Peach Farm, or Gamble's Muscadine Vineyards. Lovers of Louisiana flora can stroll the shaded paths of Fuller-Edwards Arboretum in the heart of Oakdale, while the Parish Courthouse in the Centennial City of Oberlin beckons the admirers of early Louisiana architecture.

Parish Seat³ Oberlin

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

- Oakdale

Parish Population⁴

2000.....	25,440
2003 (estimate)	25,268
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	71.9%
African-American	24.6%
Some other race.....	3.5%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	4.5%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	6.4%
5-14	14.1%
15-17	4.1%
18-19	2.6%
20-24	6.8%
25-64	54.2%
65 & over	11.8%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	75 ft.
Land area in square miles	764
Water area in square miles	1.1

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual	67°
January	58°
July	92°
Annual average rainfall	62 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

Allen Parish

Civilian.....	9,771
Employed	9,044
Unemployed.....	727
Unemployment.....	7.4%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Louisiana College, Pineville
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Alexandria
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Eunice
- McNeese State University, Lake Charles

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Culture Recreation and Tourism, 1998. keywords: regional information, <<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary <http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.